Table 5. Occupations with the largest job decline, 2000-10

[Numbers in thousands of jobs]

Occupation	Employment		Change		Quartile	
	2000	2010	Number	Percent	rank by 2000 median annual earnings1	Most significant source of education or training
Farmers and ranchers	1.294	965	-328	-25	2	Long-term on-the-job training
Order clerks	348	277	-526 -71	-23 -20	3	Short-term on-the-job training
Tellers	499	440	-59	-20 -12	3	Short-term on-the-job training
Insurance claims and policy processing clerks	289	231	-59 -58	-12	2	Moderate-term on-the-job training
Word processors and typists	209	240	-56 -57	-20 -19	3	Moderate-term on-the-job training  Moderate-term on-the-job training
Sewing machine operators	399	348	-57 -51	-19	4	Moderate-term on-the-job training  Moderate-term on-the-job training
	525	483	-42	-13 -8	4	
Dishwashers Switchboard operators, including answering service	525 259	463 218	-42 -41	-6 -16	3	Short-term on-the-job training Short-term on-the-job training
Loan interviewers and clerks						Short-term on-the-job training  Short-term on-the-job training
	139 194	101 161	-38 -33	-28 -17	2 2	
Computer operators	194	101	-33	-17		Moderate-term on-the-job training
Dining room and cafeteria attendants and bartender						
helpers	431	402	-29	-7	4	Short-term on-the-job training
Electrical and electronic equipment assemblers	379	355	-24	-6	3	Short-term on-the-job training
Machine feeders and offbearers	182	159	-22	-12	3	Short-term on-the-job training
Telephone operators	54	35	-19	-35	2	Short-term on-the-job training
Secretaries, except legal, medical, and executive	1,864	1,846	-18	-1	3	Moderate-term on-the-job training
Prepress technicians and workers	107	90	-17	-16	2	Long-term on-the-job training
Office machine operators, except computer	84	68	-16	-19	3	Short-term on-the-job training
Cutting, punching, and press machine setters, operators,						, ,
and tenders, metal and plastic	372	357	-15	-4	3	Moderate-term on-the-job training
Postal service mail sorters, processors, and processing						, ,
machine operators	289	275	-14	-5	2	Short-term on-the-job training
Railroad brake, signal, and switch operators	22	9	-13	-61	2	Work experience in a related occupation
Wholesale and retail buyers, except farm products	148	135	-13	-9	2	Bachelor's degree
Meter readers, utilities	49	36	-13	-9 -26	2	Short-term on-the-job training
Butchers and meat cutters	49 141	128	-13	-26 -9	3	Long-term on-the-job training
	260	248	-13 -12	-9 -4	3	Moderate-term on-the-job training
Parts salespersons			-12 -11			Moderate-term on-the-job training  Moderate-term on-the-job training
Inspectors, testers, sorters, samplers, and weighers	602	591 106	-11 -11	-2 -9	3 2	
Eligibility interviewers, government programs	117	100	-11	-9	2	Moderate-term on-the-job training
related workers	166	156	-10	-6	3	Short-term on-the-job training
		67	-10 -9	-6 -12		
Procurement clerks	76 45	36	-9 -8	-12 -19	2 2	Short-term on-the-job training Work experience in a related occupation
Railroad conductors and yardmasters	45 73	36 64	-8 -8	-19 -12	4	Postsecondary vocational award
Barbers	13	04	-8	-12	4	rosisecondary vocational award

 $<sup>^1</sup>$  The quartile rankings of Occupational Employment Statistics annual earnings data are presented in the following categories: 1=very high (\$39,700 and over), 2=high (\$25,760 to \$39,660), 3=low (\$18,500 to \$25,760), and 4=very low (up to \$18,490). The

rankings were based on quartiles using one-fourth of total employment to define each quartile. Earnings are for wage and salary workers.